

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

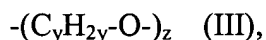
1. (Currently amended) A copolymer containing **70 to 99% by weight based on the copolymer of** polyoxymethylene blocks of the structural repeat units of the formula I and **from 1 to 30% by weight,** blocks containing structural units of the formula II



where R^1 is a divalent radical derived from a hydroxy-terminated aliphatic or cycloaliphatic oligomer or polymer which optionally has ether groups and/or carbonyloxy groups in the chain, and
x is a whole number, at least 10.

2. (Previously presented) The copolymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein x is a whole number from 500 to 10,000.

3. (Previously presented) The copolymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said polyoxymethylene blocks also contain structural repeat units of the formula III



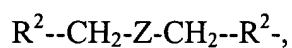
besides the structural repeat units of the formula I, where y is a whole number from 2 to 4, and z is a whole number from 1 to 3.

4. (Previously presented) The copolymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^1 is a $-(C_mH_{2m}-O-)_r-C_mH_{2m}-$ radical, m is a whole number from 2 to 4, and r is a whole number from 20 to 1,500.

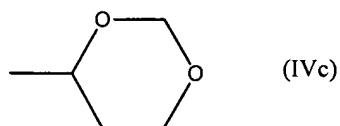
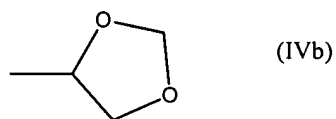
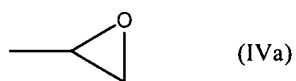
5. (Original) The copolymer as claimed in claim 4, wherein m is 2.

6. (Previously presented) A process for preparing the copolymer as claimed in claim 1, encompassing the following measures:
- (i) forming an initial charge from monomers which form $-O-CH_2-$ units together with monomers of the formula V
- $$HO-R^1-OH \quad (V),$$
- where R^1 is as defined in claim 1, together with a catalyst usually used for polymerizing the monomers forming the $-O-CH_2-$ units, and optionally together with a solvent, and/or with regulators, and
- (ii) carrying out the copolymerization at a temperature of from 120 to 300°C and at a pressure of from 2 to 500 bar.
7. (Previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the resultant block copolymer is treated, after the preparation, with water and/or with a water-soluble alcohol at from 30 to 100°C.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Previously presented) The copolymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein x is a whole number from 1,500 to 5,000.
10. (Previously presented) The copolymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^1 is a $-(C_mH_{2m}-O)-$ - $C_mH_{2m}-$ radical, m is a whole number from 2 to 4, and r is a whole number from 50 to 1,000.

11. (Previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the resultant block copolymer is treated, after the preparation, with water and/or with a water-soluble alcohol at from 50 to 80°C.
12. (Previously presented) A molding comprising the copolymer as claimed in claim 1.
13. (New) The copolymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said blocks composed of homo- or copolyoxymethylenes in the copolymer of the formula I is from 80 to 95% by weight, and the proportion of structural repeat units of the formula II is from 5 to 20% by weight, based on the copolymer.
14. (New) The copolymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said polyoxymethylene blocks are prepared by reacting trioxane with a cyclic ether and with a third monomer of the formula



where R^2 and R^2 , independently of one another, are radicals of the formula IVa, IVb, or IVc



wherein Z is a chemical bond, --O--, or --O--R³--O--and

R³ is C₂-C₈-alkylene or C₂-C₈-cycloalkylene.

15. (New) The copolymer as claimed in claim 1, which further contains from 0.1 to 20 mol %, based on the copolymer block, of co-components which are derived from ethylene oxide, propylene 1,2-oxide, butylene 1,2-oxide, butylene 1,3-oxide, 1,3-dioxane, 1,3-dioxolane, and 1,3-dioxepan.
16. (New) The copolymer as claimed in claim 1, which further contains from 0.5 to 10 mol %, based on the copolymer block, of co-components which are derived from ethylene oxide, propylene 1,2-oxide, butylene 1,2-oxide, butylene 1,3-oxide, 1,3-dioxane, 1,3-dioxolane, and 1,3-dioxepan.
17. (New) The copolymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the formula I is present in an amount from at least 80% by weight.
18. (New) The copolymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the formula I is present in an amount from at least 90% by weight.